

Page 29, paragraph bridging page 30, delete and insert the following:

(b) 3

An endoscope system, in which a second embodiment of the fluorescence imaging apparatus in accordance with the present invention is employed, will be described hereinbelow with reference to Figure 1B. The constitution of the endoscope system, in which the second embodiment of the fluorescence imaging apparatus in accordance with the present invention is employed, is approximately identical with the constitution of the endoscope system, in which the first embodiment of the fluorescence imaging apparatus described above is employed. Therefore, only different elements are numbered with different reference numerals [in parentheses] in Figure 1B.

Page 36, last paragraph bridging page 37, delete and insert the following:

(b) 3

An endoscope system, in which a third embodiment of the fluorescence imaging apparatus in accordance with the present invention is employed, will be described hereinbelow with reference to Figure 1C. The constitution of the endoscope system, in which the third embodiment of the fluorescence imaging apparatus in accordance with the present invention is employed, is approximately identical with the constitution of the endoscope system, in which the first embodiment of the fluorescence imaging apparatus described above is employed. Therefore, only different elements are numbered with different reference numerals in Figure 1C.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Kindly add the following new claims:

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. Appln. No. 09/777,681

9 (New). The imaging apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the non-imaging region is covered by an opaque film.

10 (New). The imaging apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the imaging control means prestores data indicating which regions of the image sensor correspond to non-image areas, and prevention of reading of signal charges is based on the prestored data.

11 (New). The imaging apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the imaging control means stores data indicating which regions of the image sensor correspond to non-image areas on a line by line basis of the array and prevention of reading of signal charges is based on the stored data.

12 (New). The imaging apparatus according to claim 6, wherein the non-imaging region is covered by an opaque film.

13 (New). The imaging apparatus according to claim 6, wherein the imaging control means prestores data indicating which regions of the image sensor correspond to non-image areas, and prevention of reading of signal charges is based on the prestored data.

14 (New). The imaging apparatus according to claim 6, wherein the imaging control means stores data indicating which regions of the image sensor correspond to non-image areas on a line by line basis of the array and prevention of reading of signal charges is based on the stored data.
